

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/603,518

Applicant(s)

DAVID, ALBERT M.

Examiner

Art Unit

Michael Pervan

2629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11 October 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-5,9,11,13-15,19,22-24,27,29,30,32 and 36-53.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☒ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Michael Sturm on December 5, 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1, line 5, please remove the instance of "and".

Claim 1, line 6, please insert the word –and– after “,” and before “an adhesive”.

Please amend Claim 32 as follows:

(Currently Amended) A resistive touch screen display, said display comprising:

~~a flexible membrane, wherein said flexible membrane consists of:~~

~~an ultra-thin glass layer having upper and lower surfaces and a peripheral edge therebetween;~~

~~a polymer layer having upper and lower surfaces and a peripheral edge therebetween, said glass layer being smaller than said polymer layer wherein the peripheral edge of said glass layer lies within the peripheral edge of said polymer layer;~~

~~an adhesive between said glass layer and said polymer layer for bonding the two layers together;~~

a backing surface;

a pressure sensitive adhesive affixed between the periphery of said a polymer layer and said backing surface;

an elastic ~~tensioner~~ tensioner affixed between the periphery of said polymer layer and said backing surface, said elastic tensioner being adjacent to said pressure sensitive adhesive;

a first conductive layer applied to said lower surface of said polymer layer;

a second ~~conductive~~ conductive layer applied to ~~sid~~ said backing surface;

sensors used to detect where said first conductive layer contacts said second conductive layer; and

~~wherein said touch screen further comprises an area insulator layer between said polymer layer and said pressure sensitive adhesive; and~~

~~wherein said area insulator comprises comprising an ultraviolet ink film.~~

a flexible membrane, wherein said flexible membrane consists of:

an ultra-thin glass layer having upper and lower surfaces and a peripheral edge therebetween;

said polymer layer, said polymer layer having upper and lower surfaces and a peripheral edge therebetween, said glass layer being smaller than said polymer layer wherein the peripheral edge of said glass layer lies within the peripheral edge of said polymer layer;

an adhesive between said glass layer and said polymer layer for bonding the two layers together; and

an area insulator layer between said polymer layer and said pressure sensitive adhesive, said area insulator comprising an ultraviolet ink film.

Please amend Claim 36 as follows:

(Currently Amended) A flexible membrane for a resistive touch screen display, said flexible membrane comprising:

~~a glass laminate, wherein said glass laminate consists of:~~

a glass laminate, wherein said glass laminate consists of:

an ultra-thin glass layer; a polymer layer having upper and lower surfaces;

an optical adhesive between said ultra-thin glass layer and said upper surface of said polymer layer, said optical adhesive holding said ultra-thin glass layer to said polymer layer; and

an insulating film of ultraviolet ink applied in a peripheral band to said lower surface of said polymer layer.

Please amend Claim 48 as follows:

(Currently Amended) A resistive touch screen display, said display comprising:

~~a flexible membrane, wherein said flexible membrane consists of:~~

~~an ultra-thin glass layer;~~

~~a polymer layer, said polymer layer being larger than said glass layer to extend beyond the peripheral edges of said glass layer by a predetermined distance in each direction; and~~

~~an optical adhesive between said ultra-thin glass layer and said polymer layer,
said optical adhesive holding said ultra-thin glass layer to said polymer layer;~~

a backing surface;

a pressure sensitive adhesive affixed between the periphery of said a polymer layer and said backing surface;

an elastic tensioner affixed between the periphery of said polymer layer and said backing surface, said elastic tensioner being adjacent to said pressure sensitive adhesive;

a first conductive layer applied to said lower surface of said polymer layer;

a second conductive layer applied to said backing surface;

sensors used to detect where said first conductive layer contacts said second conductive layer; and

a flexible membrane, wherein said flexible membrane consists of:

an ultra-thin glass layer;

said polymer layer, said polymer layer being larger than said glass layer to extend beyond the peripheral edges of said glass layer by a predetermined distance in each direction;

an optical adhesive between said ultra-thin glass layer and said polymer layer,
said optical adhesive holding said ultra-thin glass layer to said polymer layer; and

an area insulator layer between said polymer layer and said pressure sensitive adhesive, said area insulator comprising an ultraviolet ink film.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1, 3-5, 9, 11, 13-15, 19, 22-24, 27, 29-30, 32 and 36-53 allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1, 11, 32, 36, 42 and 48 recite, among other features, a flexible membrane consisting of an ultra-thin glass layer, a polymer layer, an adhesive layer and an area insulator layer, which comprises an ultraviolet ink film.

The examiner was unable to find a reference or combination of references that disclose a flexible membrane consisting of only the elements listed above.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Pervan whose telephone number is (571) 272-0910. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday between 8am - 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amr Awad can be reached on (571) 272-7764. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MVP
Dec. 7, 2007

AMR A. AWAD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amr A. Awad", is written over the printed name and title.